

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6599

UNCLAS KIGALI 1467

FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV

SUBJECT: PARC DES VOLCANS CONSERVATION PROJECT

1. BELIEVE MAJOR OPPORTUNITY EXISTS AT UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE (IUCN) -- ASHKHABAT, USSR, 25 SEPT - 5 OCT -- TO INVOLVE MAJOR CONSERVATION ORGS IN CONCERTED PROGRAM TO AID RWANDAN GOVT IN PROTECTING MOUNTAIN GORILLA. UNLESS OBJECTION PERCEIVED, REQUEST DEPT ASSISTANCE IN TRANSMITTING THIS AND FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGES TO US CONSERVATION LEADERS AND IN SENSITIZING THEM TO RWANDA'S NEED FOR OUTSIDE EXPERT HELP IN FAUNA PRESERVATION AND PARK MANAGEMENT.

2. DEPT PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO MR. RUSSELL E. TRAIN, PRESIDENT, WORLD WILDLIFE FUND - US, 1601 CONNECTICUT AVE NW, WASHDC:

3. QTE DEAR MR. TRAIN:

4. QTE APPRECIATE AND PROFOUNDLY SHARE CONCERN FOR MOUNTAIN GORILLAS EXPRESSED IN YOUR RECENT LETTER TO SECRETARY VANCE. SINCERELY BELIEVE CONCERN IS ALSO SHARED BY RWANDAN GOVT, WHICH HAS TAKEN EXTRAORDINARY
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MEASURES WITHIN ITS LIMITED MEANS TO SUPPRESS POACHING. HOWEVER, AS AFRICA'S MOST DENSELY POPULATED COUNTRY, RWANDA MUST GIVE FIRST PRIORITY TO ATTENDING TO BASIC HUMAN NEEDS OF ITS PEOPLE. AND AS ONE OF WORLD'S POOREST IT HAS PRECIOUS FEW RESOURCES LEFT OVER TO DEVOTE SECOND PRIORITIES. OUTSIDE HELP IS ESSENTIAL.

5. QTE OPPORTUNITY EXISTS FOR YOU AND OTHERS NOT ONLY TO MANIFEST CONCERN BUT TO SUPPLY AND COORDINATE BADLY-NEEDED ASSISTANCE THIS SECTOR. RWANDA WILL BE REPRESENTED AT IUCN CONFERENCE ASHKHABAT NEXT MONTH BY DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL PARKS AND TOURISM DISMAS NSABIMANA. ASSEMBLED CONSERVATION LEADERS MIGHT UNDERTAKE TO ORGANIZA WITH HIM A COHERENT MULTI-YEAR PROGRAM OF MATERIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR PARC DES VOLCANS. MODEST SUMS OF MONEY PLUS SERVICES OF EXPERIENCED, FRENCH-SPEAKING CONSERVATIONIST COULD PROVIDE ESSENTIALS FOR PRESERVING GORILLAS AND THEIR HABITAT OVER LONGER TERM: GUARD TRAINING, BASIC EQUIPMENT, ADEQUATE HOUSING, AND OVERALL MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE. DR. FOSSEY FULLY ENDORSES SUCH PROGRAM. I PERSONALLY URGE YOUR FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION. CRIGLER, AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, KIGALI. UNQTE. CRIGLER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CONNECTICUT AVE, WASHDC.

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NNN

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